

REMARKS

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 4-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,757,334 to Feher. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the limitations of allowable claim 2. Therefore, claim 1, as amended, is allowable and the rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn.

Claims 4-8 depend from allowable claim 1. Therefore, claims 4-8 are allowable by virtue of their dependence on claim 1, and the rejection of claims 4-8 should be withdrawn.

Applicant has canceled claims 9-15 by the foregoing amendments. Thus, the rejection of claims 9-15 is moot and should be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Also in the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 2-3 are being dependent on a rejected base claim. The Examiner stated that claims 2-3 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and the limitations of any intervening base claims.

As was discussed above, Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the limitations of allowable claim 2. Accordingly, claim 2 has been canceled and the objection should be withdrawn. Claim 1, as amended, is allowable.

Applicant has amended claim 3 to depend from allowable claim 1. Thus, claim 3 is allowable by virtue of its dependence on claim 1, and the objection should be withdrawn.

Further, the Examiner allowed claims 16-23. Applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner for these indications of allowability.


Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at (360) 379-6514. Applicant respectfully requests an early indication of allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

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By: 
Paul W. Churilla
Reg. No. 47,495

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing RESPONSE TO JANUARY 10, 2006 OFFICE ACTION is being deposited as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 21 day of February 2006.


Paul W. Churilla